

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 NIC-01 RSR-01 /133 W

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R 150725 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6005

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L BLANTYRE 397

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MI, KN

SUBJ: VISIT OF DELEGATION FROM DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES REPUBLIC
OF KOREA

REF: BLANTYRE 364

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. DURING MEETING MARCH 14 PRESIDENT BANDA SAID HE WANTED
U. S. TO KNOW BACKGROUND OF VISIT BY DELEGATION FROM DEMOCRATIC
PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF KOREA.

2. PRESIDENT SAID NORTH KOREANS PLEADED FOR PERMISSION TO
COME SAYING THEY WISHED DISCUSS WITH MALAWI A PARTICULAR
QUESTION INVOLVING RELATIONS WITH U. S. NORTH KOREANS
ASSERTED THEY KNEW WELL MALAWI' S STAND AND MALAWI' S REPU-
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TATION FOR NOT CHANGING ITS VIEWS READILY. FOR THIS REASON MALAWI UNDERSTANDING OF NORTH KOREAN VIEWPOINT ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT. PRESIDENT SAID HE DECIDED TO HEAR WHAT NORTH KOREANS HAD TO SAY BECAUSE TALKS NOW GOING FORWARD BETWEEN NORTH KOREANS AND SOUTH KOREANS WITH WHOM MALAWI HAS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. HE DECLINED TO MEET PERSONALLY WITH NORTH KOREANS WHO SAW MINISTER OF STATE MUWALO AND SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS NGWIRI.

3. ACCORDING TO PRESIDENT, NORTH KOREANS MADE STRONG PITCH FOR MALAWI SUPPORT OF THEIR POSITION AT NEXT UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN OPPOSITION TO ANTICIPATED POSITION OF U. S. THEY ARGUED THAT DISCUSSION OF KOREA AT UN WOULD FURTHER RAPPROACHMENT BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA. NORTH KOREANS ALSO SOUGHT ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. PRESIDENT SAID MALAWI WAS NONCOMMITAL ON BOTH ACCOUNTS. I COMMENTED TO PRESIDENT THAT U. S. IN PAST HAS OPPOSED DISCUSSION OF KOREAN ITEM AT UNGA BELIEVING THAT ACRIMONIOUS DEBATE WOULD NOT BE CONDUCIVE TO " DIALOGUE" BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA. WE MUCH APPRECIATE MALAWI' S PAST SUPPORT FOR OUR POSITION AND WOULD WISH TO DISCUSS QUESTION WITH HIM CLOSER TO OPENING OF GA. PRESIDENT REPLIED HE AGREED WITH CONCEPT OF QUIET DISCUSSIONS AND WOULD BE GLAD TO TALK WITH US ABOUT ISSUE LATER ON.

4. ON GENERAL QUESTION OF MALAWI RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST STATE, PRESIDENT DECLARED GOM HAD NO INTENTION OF ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ANY COMMUNIST COUNTRY NOR OF ALLOWING COMMUNIST DELEGATION TO TAKE UP PERMANENT RESIDENCE IN MALAWI. HOWEVER, MALAWI WOULD CONSIDER RECEIVING DELEGATIONS FROM COMMUNIST COUNTRIES WHICH WISHED TO VISIT TO PRESENT VIEWS ON SPECIFIC ISSUES.
BURDETT

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BLANTY00397
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BLANTYRE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730329/aaaahuse.tel
Line Count: 101
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BLANTYRE 364
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25-Jul-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <23-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 971204
Subject: VISIT OF DELEGATION FROM DEMOCRATIC PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF KOREA
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Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005